



#### NWA ANNUAL MEETING

# Your National Weather Service Local Office Saves Lives

Bill Proenza Regional Director National Weather Service Southern Region

#### **Overview**

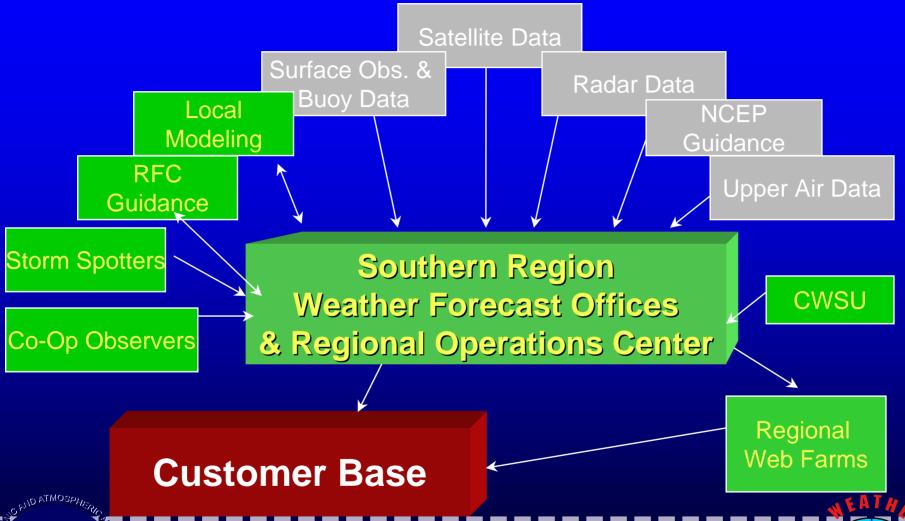
- NWS Network of 122 Local Weather Forecast Offices
- Vital Performance From Your Local Area National Weather Service Forecast Office
- Information Available on the NWS Website
- The Future of the NWS





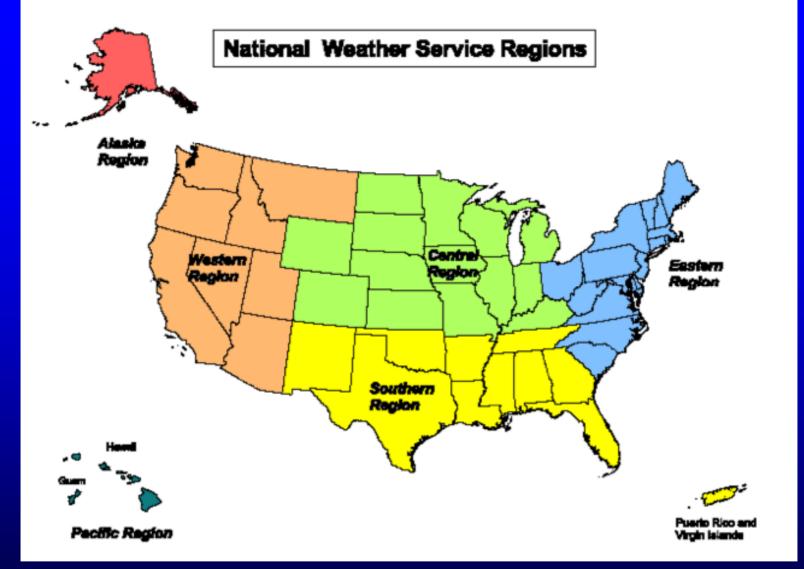
# **NWS Information Flow**

NOAA







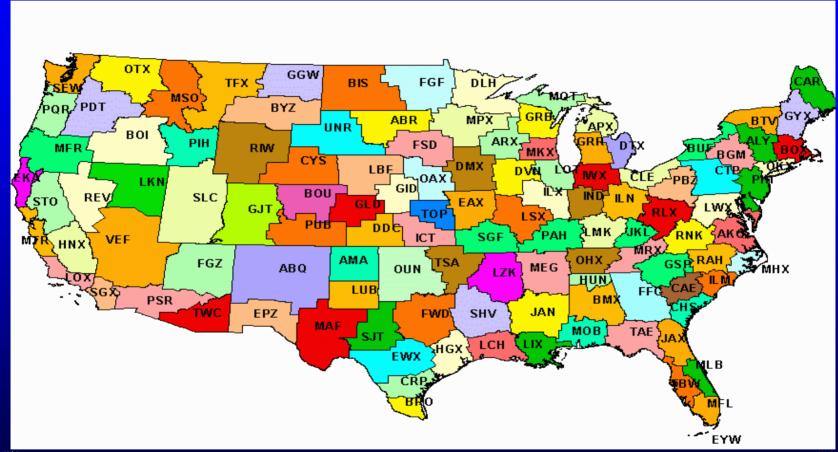








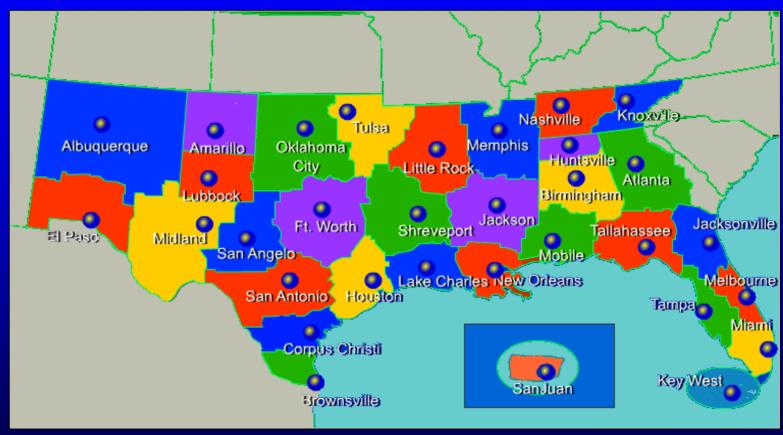
## **NWS Field Offices**







# Southern Region Offices







#### All Weather is Local

- Vast Majority of Partner/Customers are Local
  - Local Emergency Managers and Government Officials
  - Local Media
  - General Public





# **Local WFO Operations**

- Delivers the major part of the NWS mission
- Issue all weather warnings, watches and advisories for their local area
- 122 offices in U.S.A.
- Station comprised of 20 to 25 staff members

The best weather expertise for your local area





#### **Benefits of Your Local WFO**

#### **Local Area Expertise For:**

- More Accurate Forecasts and Warnings
- Outreach
  - Public awareness supports our mission delivery
- Greater Service to Public and Partners
- Better Climate Services
- Homeland Security Provide mesoscale support during incidents





# Regional Operations Center

- Shifts regional resources to events
- Conducts briefings with NWS offices and EM community
- Source for NWS interviews when WFOs are active

817-978-1100 Ext 147







# WFOs Improve Lead Time

#### May 2003 Outbreak

- Unprecedented in size and time
- 393 Tornadoes
- 39 Fatalities
- 19 Min Lead Time

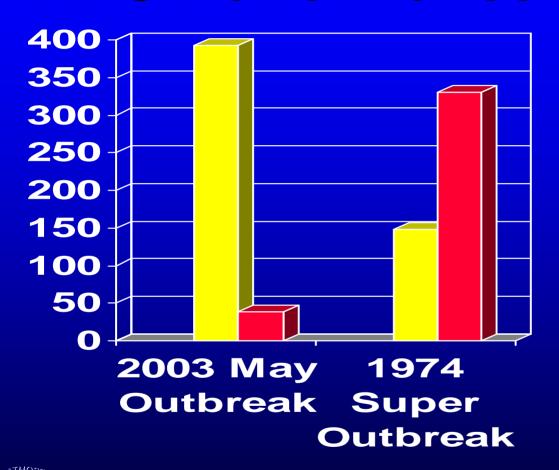
#### **April 1974 Super Outbreak**

- Single largest tornado outbreak
- 148 Tornadoes
- 330 Fatalities
- 1-5 Min Lead Time





#### **WFO Performance Saves Lives**



Tornadoes

Fatalities

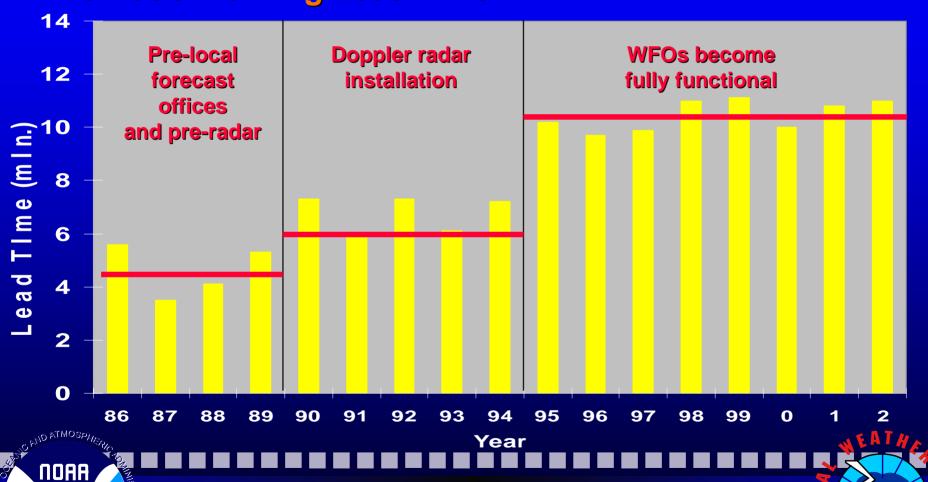


NWS SOUTHERN REGION www.srh.weather.gov



# Local NWS Field Office Performance Saves Lives

**Tornado Warning Lead Time** 





#### The Future of the NWS

"Forecast improvement will be through mesoscale (local scale) decision making."

- With use of local models and expertise, we will be able to meet increasing public and private partner needs for accuracy
- Warning Decision Support System 2 (3-5 Yrs)
- Phased Array Radar (long term)





## **NWS SR Internet Site**

# www.srh.weather.gov

- Serves as a one-stop source of weather information.
- Developed with the both partners and general users - in mind
  - Easy navigation
  - Data given in the manner you need it.
- Increases public visibility of NWS mission and services





#### **NWS SR Internet Site**

- Forecasts obtained by either postal zip code, city/state search, or by point and click maps
- Weather Information in clear, concise format
- Emphasizes local weather expertise







#### **NWS Internet Forecasts**

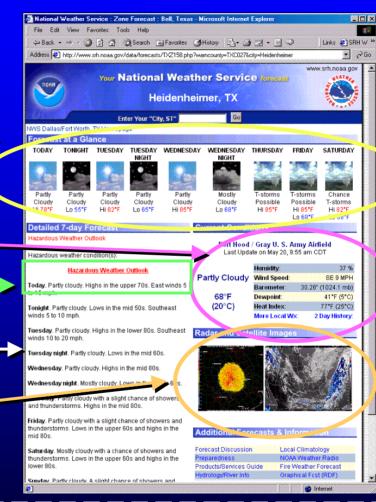
**Quick Forecast Information** 

**Current Weather Conditions** 

**Latest Weather Advisories**→

**Quick Forecast Text** 

Radar and Satellite

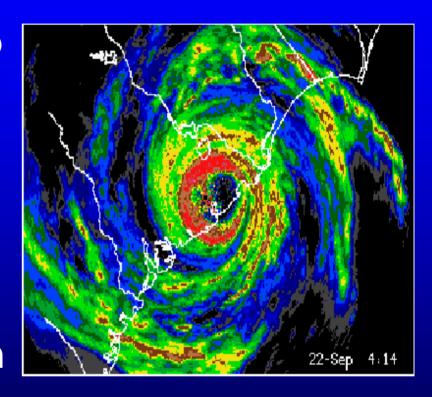




NWS SOUTHERN REGION www.srh.weather.gov

# Radar Images

- Available as a time loop for all Weather Service Radars in the U.S.
- Provides real time storm development, movement, and precipitation information







# **NWS Digital Forecasts**

- Forecasting for the 21<sup>st</sup>
   Century
- Weather Information on a 1.6 mile grid
  - (GIS)
- Forecast out to 7 days
- Maximizes Local Expertise







# Turn Around Don't Drown™

- Flood and Flash Flood Safety Campaign
- Over 30 partners representing local, regional, and national organizations
- Launched in May 2003 by NWS Southern Region for the Nation

www.srh.weather.gov



Click on this logo







# **Project Jetstream**

- Designed to help anyone interested in learning about weather
- Touches on different areas of weather, from thunderstorms to tropical weather

www.srh.weather.gov



Click on the Jetstream logo





# **National Weather Service**

"...government closest to the people, governs best."

- President George W. Bush

Applied to the NWS:

Government closest to the people, serves best





# Questions? Bill.Proenza@noaa.gov (817) 978-1000

Would you like copies of the slides?

Go To:

At Left Margin Click on:

At Left Margin Click on:

www.srh.weather.gov

**Welcome from the Director** 

"NWA Annual Meeting"



